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A SHORT ACCOUNT
OF THE
CHARITY
ESTABLISHED FOR THE
RELIEF OF FEMALE EMIGRANTS,
Under the Patronage
OF
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS
THE DUCHESS OF YORK.

London - III.

London:

PRINTED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND,

AND SOLD BY

E. LLOYD, BOOKSELLER, CORNER OF HARLEY STREET.

1797.



HON. MRS. A. EGERTON,

President.

LADIES OF THE COMMITTEE.

Marchioness Buckingham	-	5	Lady Georgina Cavendish	-	1
Marchioness Townshend	-	5	Lady Mary Bentinck	-	1
Lady Mary Coke	-	5	Lady Mary Grenville	-	1
Lady Charlotte Greville	-	5	Lady Julia Howard	-	1
Countess of Cardigan	-	5	Lady Anne North	-	1
Countess of Carlisle	-	5	Hon. Miss Southwell	-	1
Countess of Harcourt	-	5	Hon. Miss Walpole	-	1
Countess of Sutherland	-	5	Hon. Miss Fox	-	1
Countess of Mount Edgecumbe	5		Hon. Miss Dutton	-	1
Viscountess Newark	-	5	Hon. Miss Chetwynd	-	1
Lady Mary Churchill	-	5	Miss Ogilvie	-	1
Lady Malmesbury	-	5	Miss Mackenzie	-	1
Lady Muncafter	-	5	Miss Vernon	-	1
The Hon. Mrs. Robinson	-	5	Miss Francis	-	1
Mrs. Lock	-	5	Miss Macnamara	-	1
Mrs. Moore, Lambeth	-	5	Miss Canning	-	1
Mrs. Crewe	-	5	Miss Wilmot	-	1
Mrs. Berners	-	5	Miss Lukin	-	1
Mrs. Leigh	-	5	Miss Percival	-	1
Mrs. Robert Thornton	-	5	Miss Johnson	-	1
Mrs. Angerstein	-	5	Miss Saladin	-	1

JAMES TYRRELL ROSS, Esq. Secretary.

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SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE CHARITY, &c.

MRS. A. EGERTON, thinking it may be satisfactory to Persons who have contributed towards the support of the CHARITY for the RELIEF of the FRENCH EMIGRANT LADIES and CHILDREN to be informed in what manner their Subscriptions have been applied, has caused the following Statement to be drawn up:

On the 10th of May, 1796, a Meeting was held at Mr. EDWARDS's, Pall Mall, when a Committee was formed, and the Ladies resolved to appoint Persons to solicit Yearly Subscriptions of Five Shillings and One Shilling from House to House. By the Subscriptions which have been collected since that time the Committee have been enabled to distribute the following sums:

To Widows of Quiberon, 16 in number, at 10l. each per annum	£.	s.	d.
- - - - -	120	0	0
Expence of the School at Hammermith, consisting of 30 Girls, at 10l. each per annum	300	0	0
For Sick and Lying-in, to April 30, 1797	135	0	0
Disbursements for Clothes of all sorts and Child-bed Linen	60	7	3
Coals given away	7	4	0
	<u>£. 622 11 3</u>		

Number of Persons relieved by this Charity:

Sick and lying-in Women	-	-	-	-	177
Widows of Quiberon	-	-	-	-	16
Girls at school	-	-	-	-	30
					<u>223</u>
Total	-	-	-	-	<u>223</u>

Mrs. A. EGERTON begs leave to add, that, from March to July, 1796, she was enabled by a private and liberal Subscription, to the amount of Two Hundred Pounds, to relieve One Hundred Families with Money, Clothing, and Coals; by which the Ladies' Charity was not called on for relief till they were sufficiently empowered to afford it. The names of the distressed Female Emigrants are suppressed from motives of delicacy; but the number of persons relieved are laid before the Public. Mrs. A. EGERTON, in the name of the Ladies of the Committee, begs leave to return thanks for the support they have already received from the Public, and earnestly solicit a continuation of it.

The COMMITTEE think it proper to add, that they have received a donation from the French Princes who are resident in England, and likewise from the French Nobility whose circumstances would allow of their shewing their gratitude to this Institution, for their unfortunate Countrywomen.

AT a Meeting of the COMMITTEE of LADIES, for the RELIEF of FRENCH EMIGRANT LADIES and FEMALE CHILDREN, held at Mr. LLOYD's, Stationer, the Corner of *Harley* and *New Cavendish Streets*, *June 7th*, 1796,

PRESENT,

The Hon. Miss WALPOLE,		Mrs. R. THORNTON,
Hon. Mrs. A. EGERTON,		Mrs. ANGERSTEIN,
Mrs. CREWE,		Miss ANGERSTEIN,
		Miss FRANCIS,

RESOLVED,

THAT the following Narrative be printed and presented to such Ladies, residing in the Country, as may wish to take an active Part in promoting Subscriptions:

*A plain Narrative of Facts for the Information of such Ladies,
at a Distance from the Capital, as may be desirous of assisting
this Committee in their present Undertaking.*

IN the Spring of the year 1795 a manuscript paper, of which the following is a copy, made its appearance, and was circulated amongst their acquaintance by the persons whose names were subscribed to it :

“ IT having been reported that there were many Families of Emigrants from
“ France, living in and about St. George’s Fields, in the extremest indigence and
“ distress, and that a French Lady of Rank had actually perished in that neighbour-
“ hood through want, the persons whose names are subjoined did, on Saturday the
“ 4th of this month, visit several of those unfortunate sufferers, and do testify of
“ their own personal knowledge, and from credible accounts collected on the spot,
“ the truth of the facts contained in the first nine articles of the annexed report.
“ The following twenty-seven cases were verified at the same time by the most-
“ authentic information.

(Signed)

“ H. MOUNT-EDGE CUMBE,
“ MOUNT-EDGE CUMBE,
“ F. A. CREWE,
“ M. NUGENT BUCKINGHAM,
“ WALKER KING, D. D.”

“ April 7th, 1795.

*These Cases being too numerous to be here inserted, the following have been
selected as a Specimen of the Whole :*

I.

“ Madame De L—— F——, having been prematurely brought to bed in Hol-
“ land, from apprehension of being seized by the French, her child died, and she
“ was seized with a fever in the brain, and has been raving mad ever since. She
“ is now confined in St. Luke’s Hospital, leaving her husband and five children (the
“ eldest not seven years old) in want of clothing and every necessary.

“ No. 42, Pitt Street, St. George’s Fields.”

II.

“ Madame De D—— died about six weeks ago of *want*, leaving a husband unable
 “ to move from his bed, from a violent inflammation in both his legs, and three boys
 “ almost naked and sickly in the extreme. Their wants are of the most pressing
 “ kind.

“ *No. 18, Pitt Street, St. George's Fields.*”

III.

“ Madame P—— expects to lie-in in May; has nothing provided for herself
 “ or child, and is unable to purchase any necessaries: her health has been very bad
 “ for some time past. By a pension she has hitherto received from the Elector of
 “ Saxony, through the hands of Count Bruhl, of near £30 *per annum*, she has been
 “ enabled to live comfortably; but this is just stopped, without any reason having
 “ been assigned.

“ *No. 29, Wild Street, Lincoln's-Inn Fields.*”

IV.

“ Madame De R——, in the last stage of a consumption, unable to stand with-
 “ out support. Her husband received a ball in his thigh at the siege of Mentz,
 “ which could not be extracted, and which now prevents him from walking but
 “ with extreme difficulty. They appear particularly wretched and miserable.

“ *At Flemming's, Wood's Court, opposite the Pantheon.*”

V.

“ Madame La Comtesse de B—— is in very great distress—her husband old
 “ and infirm, and now confined to his room by a dropsy. Wine and strong nourish-
 “ ment are recommended by the Physician, (who attends him gratis) but they are un-
 “ able to purchase either.

“ *No. 2, Marshal Street, St. George's Fields.*”

VI.

“ Madame de B—— has five small children, and is in want of every sort of
“ linen for them, herself, and her husband. The children are quite ragged.

“ No. 16, Pitt Street, St. George's Fields.”

“ UNDER the impressions felt after viewing these affecting scenes of distress, in
“ which so many individuals of their own sex and rank in life were involved, it was
“ agreed by the Ladies who had been present, in conjunction with several other
“ Persons of Distinction, to set immediately on foot a Subscription amongst their
“ acquaintance for the relief of the unfortunate Sufferers, and also to recommend
“ their unhappy case to such Ladies in the country as might be induced, by the
“ same motives of compassion, to interest themselves in their behalf.

“ In pursuance of this determination, and from a persuasion that the peculiar cir-
“ cumstances of distress intended to be relieved cannot fail to excite your sympathy,
“ and that of every ENGLISHWOMAN, your assistance is most respectfully desired
“ in soliciting (after whatever manner your benevolence and discretion may judge
“ best) such donations as may be thought likely to prove sufficient for the purposes
“ intended.”

THE success with which these applications were attended enabled the Ladies to
give the UNFORTUNATE SUFFERERS some degree of present relief in Clothing,
Food, and Medicine. Many Ladies in the country took an active part in soliciting

donations, and from the towns of Bath, Norwich, Chester, and Wrexham, in particular, as well as from other places, several valuable parcels of Linen, Calico, and Flannel, were received.

At the beginning of the following Winter the condition of the FRENCH EMI-GRANTS in ENGLAND was found to be every day growing more and more deplorable. The Emigrations from Holland and several parts of Germany had considerably increased their numbers. The misfortunes of Quiberon had involved a great many families in the severest personal affliction. The means of subsistence which some of them possessed had been gradually worn out. The assistance they had derived from their fellow sufferers, the Emigrant Clergy of France, who shared with them their small allowance from Government, at a moment when the enhanced price of every necessary of life had reduced them to the utmost extremity of want, had ceased, in consequence of the arrear in which those payments had fallen. And here it is but justice to add, that the dreadful consequences which might otherwise have followed were, in many instances, prevented by the benevolence and generosity of our own Tradesmen, and other persons with whom these unfortunate strangers became accidentally connected, who not only gave them credit for the necessaries they wanted, but actually shared with them the very morsel they had provided for the sustenance of their own families.

At the same time the distresses of our own poor, and many ill-founded and prejudicial reports which were spread abroad respecting the Emigrants from France, required some caution and great perseverance in the endeavours which were made to interest the Public in their behalf.

Such were the difficulties with which the Ladies had to contend ; but they were not discouraged. Donations in money were again solicited and obtained ; and a very large quantity of wearing apparel and materials for making more were also contributed.

Hitherto relief had been administered to the Indigent, the Sick, the Aged, and the Infirm of both Sexes indiscriminately, according to the exigence of each particular Case ; and every possible exertion was made to discover and relieve their distress in its obscurest retreats. But the multiplicity of the demands soon exceeded the amount

of the fund, and it was found necessary to limit its distribution. Accordingly, at a Meeting held at the Bishop of St. POL DE LEON'S, in the month of March, it was agreed, by a great number of Ladies then present, that they should, in future, confine themselves to the Relief of their own sex only, and the enclosed Plan of a Subscription for that purpose was then drawn up and approved.

As, however, a Plan of this nature must necessarily take some time to arrange, and much more before it can possibly be carried into effect, and as it was in the mean time absolutely necessary to guard, as far as it was possible, against the return of similar scenes of distress to those which the Ladies had already witnessed, The Hon. Mrs. A. EGERTON, and other Ladies exerted themselves in support of these unfortunate people, and amongst their own private connections raised a sum sufficient to answer the purpose of the moment. The mode of relief which the Ladies adopted, was to supply all those persons who were found to be objects of this Charity, with bedding and clothing, and also with money, whenever this was found necessary, either from sickness or any other cause. The research was attended with much personal labour and fatigue to themselves, and the Committee are now enabled, by the information they have received, to state both the number and description of the persons intended to be relieved, and of the probable Annual Expence which will attend the same.

The First Class consists of the Widows of Quiberon. These are about thirty in number, and it is proposed to allow them £10 a year each.

The Second Class consists of Female Children, between the ages of six and fourteen years. It is computed that there are about one hundred and fifty of this description, and it is proposed to educate them in such a manner as may best enable them to become useful members of society. This expence, in addition to the allowance from Government, it is conceived, will not exceed £10 a year each.

The Third Class will comprise the Sick, the Aged, and the Infirm, Women lying-in, and Children under Six Years of Age. The numbers of this Class will necessarily vary, and the relief to be extended must depend upon the amount of the Subscription. But it is conceived, that about Six or Seven Hundred Pounds a Year, may in general be sufficient to answer these purposes.

The whole of the Annual Expences will consequently amount to about £2500 a Year, a sum which, it is hoped, may be raised without much difficulty, in the manner proposed, if it should be so fortunate as to meet with the general Support of the LADIES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The sums to be subscribed are made small, with a view to prevent this Subscription from interfering with the ordinary exercise of Charity towards our own poor, as they may be saved by a small retrenchment in any unnecessary Article of Luxury. It has been thought proper to limit the Subscriptions to Seven Shillings from any one family; and the smallest donations will be thankfully received.

The MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS of the COMMITTEE lie at Mr. LLOYD's, Stationer, the Corner of *Harley* and *New Cavendish Streets*; to which all Persons are at liberty to refer for any further Particulars relative to this Charity. Subscriptions are also there received and registered.

The Committee, which is open to all Subscribers, meets every Tuesday at Two o'clock, P. M. The Select Committee, authorised to act for the whole, is composed of

The Right Honourable Lady MARY CHURCHILL,

Honourable Mrs. A. EGERTON,
Miss FRANCIS,

Mrs. LOCKE,
Miss ANGERSTEIN.

In the Cities of London and Westminster Collectors have been appointed, who carry from house to house Subscription Books, authenticated by signatures in the hand-writing of the Members of the Committee, and who receive One Shilling in the Pound for the money collected by them. The same plan may be adopted for other cities and towns; and it is recommended to every Lady to whom this book is sent, residing in or near such cities and towns, to procure four of her own acquaintance to act with and assist her in the laborious parts of this undertaking. Subscriptions may by this means be more extensively solicited, and the money collected by the



